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APPLICATION NO.	FILING DATE	FIRST NAMED INVENTOR	ATTORNEY DOCKET NO.	CONFIRMATION NO.
09/923,534	08/08/2001	Robert Noodelijk	CHRE:118	2112

7590 03/11/2003

PARKHURST & WENDEL  
SUITE 210  
1421 PRINCE STREET  
ALEXANDRIA, VA 22314

EXAMINER

GRUNBERG, ANNE MARIE

ART UNIT	PAPER NUMBER
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1661

DATE MAILED: 03/11/2003

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

# Office Action Summary

Application No.

09/923,534

Applicant(s)

Robert Noodeljik

Examiner

Anne Marie Grunberg

Art Unit

1661



-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

## Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE three MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136 (a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133).
- Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

## Status

- 1) ☒ Responsive to communication(s) filed on Dec 31, 2002.
- 2a) ☐ This action is **FINAL**. 2b) ☒ This action is non-final.
- 3) ☐ Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11; 453 O.G. 213.

## Disposition of Claims

- 4) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are pending in the application.
- 4a) Of the above, claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are allowed.
- 6) ☒ Claim(s) 1 is/are rejected.
- 7) ☐ Claim(s) \_\_\_\_\_ is/are objected to.
- 8) ☐ Claims \_\_\_\_\_ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

## Application Papers

- 9) ☒ The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) ☐ The drawing(s) filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is/are a) ☐ accepted or b) ☐ objected to by the Examiner.  
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
- 11) ☐ The proposed drawing correction filed on \_\_\_\_\_ is: a) ☐ approved b) ☐ disapproved by the Examiner.  
If approved, corrected drawings are required in reply to this Office action.
- 12) ☐ The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner.

## Priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 119 and 120

- 13) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).  
a) ☐ All b) ☐ Some\* c) ☐ None of:  
1. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.  
2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. \_\_\_\_\_.  
3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).  
\*See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.
- 14) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(e).  
a) ☐ The translation of the foreign language provisional application has been received.
- 15) ☐ Acknowledgement is made of a claim for domestic priority under 35 U.S.C. §§ 120 and/or 121.

## Attachment(s)

- 1) ☐ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892) 4) ☐ Interview Summary (PTO-413) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_
- 2) ☐ Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) 5) ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 3) ☐ Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449) Paper No(s). \_\_\_\_\_ 6) ☐ Other:

**DETAILED ACTION**

The text of those sections of Title 35, U.S. Code not included in this action can be found in a prior Office action.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 112***

1. Claim 1 remains rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs, for the reason stated below.

Applicant's amendment dated 12/31/02 failed to address at least the following:

D. A description of the plant width, branch length and width, petiole length, and calyx was not supplied.

E. The color descriptions for the calyx, vein and petiole were not supplied.

Applicant argues that the application contains sufficient disclosure to adequately describe and clearly distinguish the claimed variety from other varieties.

This argument has been fully considered but is not persuasive for the following reasons. Applicant is applying an incorrect standard when arguing that the disclosure is sufficient to

adequately describe and clearly distinguish the claimed variety over other varieties. No art rejection was used in this case and as such distinguishing from the prior art is not the issue. Rather, the description is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 112, first and second paragraphs for not complying with 35 U.S.C. 162 wherein "the description is as complete as is reasonably possible." As a result, adequate description is not the same standard as complete as is reasonably possible.

***Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102***

2. The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless --

(b) the invention was patented or described in a printed publication in this or a foreign country or in public use or on sale in this country, more than one year prior to the date of application for patent in the United States.

3. Claim 1 is rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) as being anticipated by Plant Breeder's Right NL PBR CHR3164, application publication date 16 November 1999.

Claim 1 is drawn to a chrysanthemum 'Etna' subject of Plant Breeder's Right NL PBR CHR3164.

In the response to the 105 Requirement for Information, Applicant admits that first sales of the instant plant took place in December 1999. This, in combination with the above described UPOV application elicits a 102(b). See below for more information.

**Applicant is required to provide copies of the applications for Plant Breeder's Right as stated on page 11, lines 11-12 of the Office Action dated 9/10/02, paper #2.**

The claimed chrysanthemum variety 'Etna' is described in the Plant Breeder's Right NL PBR CHR3164 on an application published on 16 November 1999.

The published grant, application and published proposed denomination are each "printed publications" under 35 U.S.C. 102 because they are accessible to persons concerned with the art to which the document relates. See *In re Wyer*, 655 F.2d 221, 226, 210 USPQ 790, 794 (CCPA 1981). See also MPEP § 2128. For example, UPOV publishes the application number and grant number, date of publication, species of plant and variety denomination for PBR certificates, and copies of the grant are obtainable through the Netherlands Board of Plant Breeders' Rights. Notice of Plant Breeder's Right grants is also published in the *Nederlandse Staatscourant*. Plant varieties are also entered in the Netherlands Register of Varieties, which is public. Thus information regarding the claimed variety, in the form of the publications noted above, was readily available to interested persons of ordinary skill in the art.

A printed publication can serve as a statutory bar under 35 U.S.C. 102(b) if the reference, combined with knowledge in the prior art, would enable one of ordinary skill in the art to reproduce the claimed plant. *In re LeGrice*, 301 F.2d 929, 133 USPQ 365 (CCPA 1962). If one skilled in the art could reproduce the plant from a publicly available source, then a publication describing the plant would have an enabling disclosure. See *Ex parte Thomson*, 24 USPQ2d 1618, 1620 (Bd. Pat. App. & Inter. 1992) ("The issue is not whether the [claimed] cultivar Siokra was on public use or sale in the United States but, rather, whether Siokra seeds were available to a skilled artisan anywhere in the world such that he/she could attain them and make/reproduce the Siokra cultivar disclosed in the cited publications.").

Since one skilled in the art could reproduce the plant because it was readily available to the public, then the above referenced publications had an enabling disclosure.

***Conclusion***

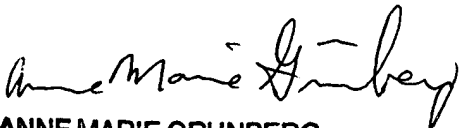
The claim is not allowed.

**Future Correspondence**

Any inquiry concerning this communication from the Examiner should be directed to Anne Marie Grünberg whose telephone number is (703) 305-0805. The Examiner can normally be reached Monday through Thursday from 6:00 am to 3:30 pm and alternate Fridays from 7:00 am to 3:30 pm.

If attempts to reach the Examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the Examiner's supervisor, Bruce Campell, can be reached at (703) 308-4205. The fax phone number for the group is (703) 305-3014 or 308-4242.

Any inquiry of a general nature or relating to the status of this application should be directed to the Group receptionist whose telephone number is (703) 308-0196.

  
**ANNE MARIE GRUNBERG**  
**PATENT EXAMINER**